

## II. Amendments to the Claims

1. (Currently Amended) An incontinence article, comprising:

a front portion;

a rear portion joined to the front portion; and

a bumper extending along an entire edge of a top portion of at least one of the front portion and the rear portion.

2. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 1, further comprising a front guard extending vertically from the front portion to a middle chest area of a user, wherein the bumper is positioned along a top edge of the front guard.

3. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 1, further comprising a back guard extending vertically from the rear portion to a middle back area of a user, wherein the bumper is attached along a top edge of the back guard.

4. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 1, wherein the bumper is positioned along a the top edge portion of the front portion.

5. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 1, wherein the bumper is positioned along a the top edge portion of the rear portion.

6. (Original) The article of claim 1, wherein the bumper is a block.

7. (Original) The article of claim 1, wherein the bumper is a roll.

8. (Currently Amended) An incontinence article, comprising:

a front portion having a front guard extending vertically therefrom to a middle chest area of a user;

a rear portion having a back guard extending vertically therefrom to a middle back area of a user;

a crotch portion between the front portion and the rear portion; and

a bumper extending along an entire edge of a top portion of at least one of the front guard and the back guard.

9. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 8, wherein the bumper is positioned along a the top edge portion of the front guard.

10. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 8, wherein the bumper is positioned along a the top edge portion of the back guard.

11. (Original) The article of claim 8, wherein the bumper is a roll.

12. (Original) The article of claim 8, wherein the bumper is a block.

13. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 8, wherein a first bumper is positioned along the top edge portion of the front guard, and wherein a second bumper is positioned along a the top edge portion of the back guard.

14. (Currently Amended) An incontinence article, comprising:

a front portion;

a rear portion having a back guard extending vertically therefrom to a middle back area of a user;

a crotch portion between the front portion and the rear portion; and

a bumper extending along an entire edge of a top portion of at least one of the front portion and the back guard.

15. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 14, wherein the bumper is positioned along a the top edge portion of the back guard.

16. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 14, wherein the bumper is positioned along a the top edge portion of the front portion.

17. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 14, wherein a first bumper is positioned along a the top edge portion of the back guard, and wherein a second bumper is positioned along a the top edge portion of the rear portion.

18. (Original) The article of claim 14, wherein the bumper is a roll.

19. (Original) The article of claim 14, wherein the bumper is a block.

20. (Currently Amended) An incontinence article, comprising:

a front portion having a front guard extending vertically therefrom to a middle chest area  
of a user;

a rear portion;

a crotch portion between the front portion and the rear portion; and

a bumper extending along an entire edge of a top portion of at least one of the front guard  
and the rear portion.

21. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 20, wherein the bumper is positioned along a the  
top edge portion of the front guard.

22. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 20, wherein the bumper is positioned along a the  
top edge portion of the rear portion.

23. (Currently Amended) The article of claim 20, wherein a first bumper is positioned along a the  
top edge portion of the front guard, and wherein a second bumper is positioned along a the top  
edge portion of the rear portion.

24. (Previously Amended) The article of claim 20, wherein th bumper is a roll.

25. (Previously Amended) The article of claim 20, wherein the bumper is a block.

26. (New) The article of claim 1, wherein the bumper is absorbent.

27. (New) The article of claim 8, wherein the bumper is absorbent.

28. (New) The article of claim 14, wherein the bumper is absorbent.

29. (New) The article of claim 20, wherein the bumper is absorbent.